DAVID R. CRAIG HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE

LORRAINE T. COSTELLO DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION



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DARLINGTON FARM TO EXPAND HORSE BREEDING OPERATION

(Bel Air, MD- December 31, 2008) - - The Harford County Division of Agriculture is pleased to announce that Bonita Farm in Darlington is expanding its horse breeding operation, and will be the new home to four stallions that formerly stood at Maryland Stallion Station in Baltimore County.

Joining Go For Gin, Mojave Moon, and pensioned Preakness winner Deputed Testamony in Bonita's stallion barn will be Outflanker, the second-leading sire in the mid-Atlantic region, as well as freshman sires Fantasticat, Gators N Bears, and St. Averil.

"There's been a lot of negativity in

Maryland racing, and these stallions bring a lot of positive attitude to our farm and to the county," stated J. William Boniface, General Manager of Bonita Farm. "Outflanker already has a great reputation as a sire, and there is a lot of optimism to see how the first crop from the other three stallions performs in 2009."

"It's good for the county," Boniface added. "We have a long history of good farms, good horses, and good breeders. These stallions will be easily accessible to other farms in the area."

"This is great news for both Bonita Farm and for the horse industry in Harford County," said C. John Sullivan, III, Deputy Chief of Staff for Agriculture. "It shows that our thoroughbred operations are still very strong despite the difficult climate in the industry. Added to the quality stallions already at Bonita Farm, Murmur Farm, and Country Life Farm, this acquisition only enhances Harford's reputation for being the birthplace of champion horses."

Bonita Farm is located in the historic Lower Deer Creek Valley, and its 390 acres have been in Ag preservation since 1985.

To learn more about the horse industry in Harford County, log on to the Division of Agriculture's website at www.HarfordFarms.com. For more information on Bonita Farm and its new stallions, log on to www.bonitafarm.com.